

509.0 Prohibited Locations

Water heaters which depend on the combustion of fuel for heat shall not be installed in a room used or designed to be used for sleeping purposes, bathroom, clothes closets or in a closet or other confined space opening into a bath or bedroom.

Exception: Direct vent water heaters.

Where not prohibited by other regulations, water heaters may be located under a stairway or landing.

510.0 Protection From Damage

510.1 Water heaters generating a glow, spark or flame capable of igniting flammable vapors may be installed in a garage, provided the pilots, burners or heating elements and switches are at least eighteen (18) inches (0.5 m) above the floor level.

510.2 Where such water heaters installed within a garage are enclosed in a separate, approved compartment having access only from outside of the garage, such water heaters may be installed at floor level provided the required combustion air is also taken from the exterior of the garage. Fuel burning water heaters having sealed combustion chambers need not be elevated.

510.3 All water heaters installed in areas where they may be subjected to mechanical damage shall be suitably guarded against such damage by being installed behind adequate barriers or by being elevated or located out of the normal path of a vehicle using any such garage.

510.4 The Administrative Authority may require the use of an approved dielectric insulator on the water piping connections of water heaters and related water heating equipment.

510.5 In seismic zones 3 and 4, water heaters shall be anchored or strapped to resist horizontal displacement due to earthquake motion. Strapping shall be at points within the upper one-third (1/3) and lower one-third (1/3) of its vertical dimensions. At the lower point, a minimum distance of four (4) inches (101.6 mm) shall be maintained above the controls with the strapping.

510.6 A water heater supported from the ground shall rest on level concrete or other approved base extending not less than three (3) inches (76.2 mm) above the adjoining ground level.

510.7 When a water heater is located in an attic or furred space where damage may result from a leaking water heater, a watertight pan of corrosion resistant materials shall be installed beneath the water heater with a minimum three-quarter (3/4) inch (19.1 mm) diameter drain to an approved location.

511.0 Access and Working Space

Every water heater installation shall be accessible for inspection, repair, or replacement. The appliance space shall be provided with an opening or